

I am deeply concerned with what is happening with the the Clear Channel operations in Wheeling, WV. They own 7 of the 8 radio stations in Wheeling and have just done away with all local programming and local news during the week on 1170 WWVA a 50,000 watt station this community has depended on for news and emergency notifications. Of the 7 stations Clear Channel owns, only one has a local morning show. When we are in a weather emergency and the power is out, we are told to have a radio with extra batteries so we can be informed of road condiditons, school closings, and evacuations. This will no longer help anyone in this community with all regional and national programming on these stations. In addition, the other station located in Wheeling (not owned by Clear Channel) has a signal so weak there are parts of the city that cannot tune in.

This has me concerned not just for emergency reasons but because WWVA radio has a 70 year tradition that has been a hallmark for this community nation-wide. Now there is no local identification whatsoever!

I believe companies have the right to run their business, but broadcasting is a different animal. The first tenant is to be of public service to the community. NONE of this is true any longer with the stations Clear Channel operates.

With the exception of about 7 local on-air personalities, most of the "local" programming is recorded in other parts of the country and passed along to the community as "local". Please tell me how a person recording an afternoon show in Pennsylvania can alert me to an emergency situation happening in or around Wheeling, WV?

I will be sending a letter to you via the mail and to my congressmen.

Our voice has been lost in this community and something needs to be done about it immediately!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sherrie Dunlevy